

# Detainee to serve six months for starting fire in Al Qusais Police Station

The Dubai Court of First Instance incriminated the 20-year-old Emirati detainee of arson, damaging public property [bed, pillows, bed sheets and blankets] and endangering the lives of other detainees.

- By Bassam Za'za', Senior Reporter
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Dubai: A detainee faces six months in jail after a court convicted him of deliberately setting ablaze blankets and pillows in Al Qusais Police Station's solitary confinement.

The Dubai Court of First Instance incriminated the 20-year-old Emirati detainee of arson, damaging public property [bed, pillows, bed sheets and blankets] and endangering the lives of other detainees.

The accused, R.Y., pleaded not guilty and denied his charges in court.

Presiding Judge Al Saeed Mohammad Barghout, who pronounced Tuesday's ruling, said the accused will have to pay around Dh5,500 for the damages caused.

Meanwhile R.Y. was acquitted of his charges.

"I did not endanger the life of anyone... and I didn't damage any properties," R.Y. said when he defended himself in court. R.Y. and B.S. were charged with endangering the lives of tens of detainees at Al Qusais Police Station's detention.

## Tracked down

An Omani first policeman testified that the defendants were injured in the fire and rushed to hospital: "Smoke was puffing out from the confinement... I called the Civil Defence. The electricity went off and we thought the fire was in Cell A".

"Later we discovered that the fire was in the solitary confinement where the suspects were detained. R.Y. and B.S. were taken to hospital," the first policeman stated.

An Emirati second lieutenant testified that B.S. confessed that he had set the blanket and pillows on fire using a lighter.

The primary verdict remains subject to appeal within 15 days

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